Association, when the event was una the state of several weeks. The subject of the society, and particularly and particularl ART NEWS AND REVIEWS---BAKST STILL BAKST, HIS EXHIBITION SHOWS

Russian Master of Color Displays Alluring Pictures

Brilliant Opening of Display at Knoedler's-His Portrait of Mrs. John W. Garrett Notable-Arthur Rackham's Work Contrasted.

By HENRY McBRIDE.

UITE the smartest opening of the season was the private view of the Bakst exhibition at Knoedler's on Tuesday. It deserves a special costume expert to descant upon and analyze the costumesas they do in Paris for great premieres—and a court chamberlain to fur nish forth the grand names in the exact order of precedence—as they do in London-but as they don't do either of these things in America both must be left to the imagination of our readers-and thank Heaver that is one thing our readers all have.

Say what you like it is always gratifying when society takes up art It makes things so easy. People's minds relax when they know in advance they are not to be compromises, and a state of receptivity ensues that may be comparable to the general social tone in the age of Pericles or later in the time of the great Elizabeth. Without receptivity art is nowhere, and that has been the chief trouble heretofore in this country. But M. Bakst can make no complaints against us upon that score. He was there in person and he must have noticed that he was distinctly received. Everybody got it. His message, I mean.

His being there in person doubtless explained the unusual turnout There have been fashionable vernissages before, but never one in New York with the peculiar admixture on Tuesday of what is generally termed "brilliant." It was brilliant in the way that "The Souls" of Margot Tennant and Arthur Balfour were brilliant, and had Margot been in town she certainly would have been there. There was that little quickness in the atmosphere that always comes when the consciously gifted are performing wonders for the public good. This element is so recognizedly desirable that there is always the temptation, even among the very good who are present, to force it, but fortunately this can never be. The progress from rarity to rareties is, on the contrary, not a progress, and instantly ends everything. So that, even in a republic, it is apparent that there must be some occasions that are better than other occasions and we can only let it go at that.

Bakst's Portrait of Mrs. John W. Garrett.

As to the works themselves, they require no special readjustment in the point of view. Bakst is still Bakst. Possibly there is a something different in the portraits of Mrs. John W. Garrett and the Ida Rubenstein, a coolness and calmness that used not to be there. To be sure, after all that has happened, a coolness and calmness in a portrait by Bakst is not far from being sensational. What calmed him? What? Oh, perhaps, after all, it was Mme. Ida Rubenstein. Why not? She always seemed to me a regular iceberg, or rather, to employ le mot juste, an

icicle. Everybody raves about the warmth of her impersonation of "St. Sebastien," but as for myself I remember very well that I caught an influenza that night at the theater that lasted me a full month.

But enough of these details. Disregarding all danger the ladies of the mpany crowded this portrait, particcompany crowded this portrait, particularly on Tuesday. It may have been Mme. Ida Rubenstein or it may have been the costume. The robe had been especially designed by the artist, had then been carried out by one of the foremost couturiers and then painted by Bakst. He had seen Mme. Ida Rubenstein the seen Mme. Ida Rubenstein the seen Mme. benstein through, in other words. The Russians are as thorough almost as the English. But the end justifies the means. Ida Rubenstein conquered

all beholders, as usual. The rivalry of Arthur Rackham and Leon Bakst is like the old time rivalry between Duse and Bernhardt, who always used to be arriving in town at ers to unheard of agonies of choice Arthur Rackham is at Scott & Fowles's, Bakst is at Knoedler's; art lovers will end, as the theatergoers of years ago ended, in going to both

Arthur Rackham "Collected."

It is a tossup as to which of the two has the stanchest admirers. For one thing. Arthur Rackham is "collected." His drawings are usually made for books that are within reach of the many. There are those who leave orders at Drake's in advance for everything by him that comes out, and nat-urally their loftiest dream is to possess an original. It is, upon the whole, astonishing to how many Americans this dream comes true. Rackhams are owned here in quantities.

The present exhibition will probably

The present exhibition will probably go down to history as the best of Rackham that has occurred. The zest of the artist shows no diminution; indeed, augments. There seems to be not end to his fantasy, no end to his industry. Trees still present an extraordinary fascination for him, and there is no little kink and the state of the still present an extraordinary fascination for him, and there is no little kink and the present an extraordinary fascination for him, and there is no little kink and the present and the present

vision of a reader.

Palette Too Subdued.

"The old charge that his palette was too subdued was at one time quite fair, but it should be remembered that the salient characteristics of Rackham's art is its Gothle spirit. Had he lived five centuries earlier he would have been animating the borders of parchment missals with demons, mythical unicorns, necromancers and floral forms, or carving gargoyles, intricate traceries and lacelike arabesques in which a huge gun, concealed by trees.

Kerr Eby, who was one of our most successful was artists, keeps to the fervor he then acquired, and shows in the keeppel Galleries that he is an etcher to be reckoned with. He is an etcher to be reckoned with. He is an other to be reaching draughtsman and one who is not, apparently, afraid of work. His second exhibitions the corrections of New Society

The Arstista Cooperative Galleries' second exhibition of the year is divided into groups. In one there are portraits be into groups. In one there are portraits and Edith Phelphs, and flower pieces by Constance Curtis. All of these are competent artists. Mrs. Rand has long since achieved a position in the front rank of American portrait painters and her



MRS JOHN W GARRETT BY LEON BAKST COURTESY OF M KNOEDLER & CO

stone and wood like those to be seen at Albi or St. Bertrand de Comgo down to history as the best of Rackham that has occurred. The zest of spay, blue drawings in modulations

painter of the golden palette. The urge to paint came to him while designing gowns for the biggest dressmaking firms of Paris. Last year Mr. Icart originated the "snake skin glove," creating a furore in Paris by the oddity of this style. He designs all Mme. Icart's gowns, his wife being considered one of the most beautiful women of Paris.

Louis Icart is the only painter known to have painted the life size portrait in less time than it takes a photograph. Shortly before coming to this country Mr. Icart painted a portrait of Mile. Favart, the noted French factress. The portrait was executed in five hours for the sum of \$3,000. The artist has been known to receive as unuch as \$10 a minute for portrait commissions.

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the finest and most interesting examples were chosen to illustrate the art of penmanship through the past four centuries. This exhibit, which is full of suggestion to the modern printer and designer, will be open to the public from December 6 to December 30.

An exhibition of unusual glassware by H. O. Mueller will open on December 7 for a period of three weeks. Years of study and experimentation are represented in the exhibit, as Mr. Mueller uses no molds in the production of his pieces. Particular mention must be made of the glass flowers, scientifically his pieces. Particular mention must be made of the glass flowers, scientifically correct in form and color as well as a delight to the eye. Flowers, leaves and stems are modeled with the aid of the blowpipe from glass tubes and rods. Besides these flowers Mr. Mueller is a blowler mirrors. Trames and change. Besides these flowers art, sucher is showing mirrors, frames and chande-liers and some modern table glassware which has all the delicacy of Venetian glass. There are also some beautiful reproductions of antique models.

The Society of Independent Artists at its last meeting voted by acclamation to invite a group of Mexican artists to show at the annual independent saion which opens at the Waldorf-Astoria February 24, 1923. This invitation is a salute from the local society of independent artists to the recently crganized society of independent artists to the recently crganized society of independent artists.

The vicar said he never entertained any one on Sundays; people should stay at home on Sunday and help along the activities of the church.

After the service Lord Ampthill got his turn at the boys. He said that smoking had been helpful to some of the greatest men in the world. One of the wisest philosophers used to smoke like a chimney. But of course it wouldn't be right for small boys to smoke.

He always entertained his friends on Sunday, he said. He honored God by going to church Sunday morning, but

Sunday, he said. He honored God by going to church Sunday morning, but afterward he sometimes did a bit of carpentry. The idea of Sunday, he told the boys, was that it should be a day of rest, which meant abstinence from ordinary work. Manual labor on Sundays rested him rather more than anything eise, he said, because during the week he had to attend a good many meetings in hot, stuffy rooms.

stuffy rooms.

One of the grownups suggested that the peer and the parson hold a public discussion on the subject, the proceeds to be divided equally between the church and the Scouts.

Antelopes Increase In Canadian Preserve

Letteringe, Alta., Dec. 8.—Government plans to prevent the extinction of antellope in western Canada are proving successful, and the preserve created at Foremost. Alta, in 1918 with fifty animals in captivity now holds 130 head. Known as the Nemiskam park, the preserve comprises nine square miles, and the steady growth of the herd and the absence of disease is good evidence that the experiment is likely to result in saving this most interesting species from the extermination which otherwise inevitably awaits it.

Swifter than the greyhound in flight, exceedingly graceful and beautiful, the antelope has for many years been a prize for the big game hunter and its numbers have been d iminishing of late years with a rapidity that has aroused the concern of all lovers of wild life.

Ten years ago Dr. W. T. Hornaday, the American naturalist, estimated that there were 2,000 antelope in Western Canada. To-day there are reported to be only about 1,000 in a wild state in Alberta and 250 in Saskatchewan, while they entirely disappeared from the province of Manitoba some years ago. LETHERIDGE, Alta., Dec. 8 .- Governmen

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